



# Kansas Bureau of Investigation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 11, 2022**

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## **Suspect arrested in 2019 Double Homicide**

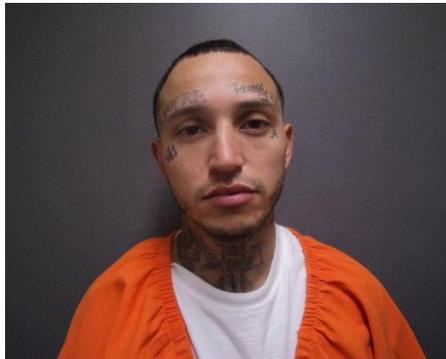
SEWARD COUNTY– The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) and the Seward County Sheriff's Office announced a Liberal man has been arrested connected to the April 2019 murders of 25-year-old Timothy J. Martin, and 31-year-old Erick G. Salas.

The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI), the Liberal Police Department, the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics, the Texas County Sheriff's Office, and the District 1 District Attorney's Task Force also assisted with the investigation.

Ralph Thomas Salas Jr., 30, of Liberal, was arrested on Monday, Jan. 10 just before 1:30 p.m. for two counts of first-degree murder, two counts of aggravated kidnapping, two counts of conspiracy to commit murder, two counts of aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and several other charges. The arrest occurred at 415 N. Washington in Liberal. He was then booked into the Seward County Jail.

Ralph Salas is alleged to have participated in the robbery, kidnapping and shooting deaths of Timothy Martin and Erick Salas. The victims' bodies were found in separate locations on April 2, 2019. Martin was discovered by a farmer on his property near U.S. Highway 54 and the Kansas/Oklahoma state line in Texas County, Oklahoma. Salas was discovered deceased in a trailer at the Seven Winds RV Park in Liberal. Ralph Salas and Erick Salas were not related.

The Seward County Attorney is expected to prosecute the case. Nothing further will be released at this time.



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**EARLIER RELEASE**  
April 3, 2019

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## **Homicides in Seward County and along Kansas/Oklahoma state line**

SEWARD COUNTY– The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI), the Seward County Sheriff's Office, the Liberal Police Department, the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics, the Texas County, Okla., Sheriff's Office, and the Texas County, Okla., District Attorney's Office are investigating after two Liberal men were found deceased on Tuesday.

At approximately 9:15 a.m. on Tuesday, April 2, the Seward County Sheriff's Office requested KBI assistance to investigate the discovery of a deceased man. Just after 8 a.m., a farmer reported to the Seward County Sheriff's Office that he found the body located in a ditch on his property near U.S. Highway 54 and the Kansas/Oklahoma state line in Texas County, Okla. Since the body was discovered very near the state line, authorities and crime scene teams from both states responded to investigate. The deceased man has been identified as Timothy J. Martin, 25, of Liberal.

While investigators were developing leads in the case, at approximately 8:50 p.m. Tuesday night, a 911 call was received by the Seward County Sheriff's Office reporting the body of a second deceased man located in a trailer at the Seven Winds RV Park, at 1702 Road F, west of Liberal. The man has been identified as 31-year-old Erick G. Salas, of Liberal.

Authorities believe the two homicides are likely connected as the two men were former roommates.

Anyone with information about these homicides is asked to contact the KBI at 1-800-KS-CRIME, the OSBI at 1-800-522-8017 or [tips@osbi.ok.gov](mailto:tips@osbi.ok.gov), or the Seward County Sheriff's Office at 620-309-2000.

The investigation is ongoing. Nothing further will be released at this time.

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